

NORMA J. TORRES

35TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

2444 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
PHONE: (202) 225-6161
FAX: (202) 225-8671

3200 INLAND EMPIRE BLVD., SUITE 200B
ONTARIO, CA 91764
PHONE: (909) 481-6474
FAX: (909) 941-1362



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

COMMITTEE ON RULES
APPROPRIATIONS
TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING AND
URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES
STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND
RELATED PROGRAMS
FINANCIAL SERVICES AND
GENERAL GOVERNMENT
REGIONAL WHIP

Tuesday, March 10, 2020

The Honorable Mike Pence
Vice President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20501

Dear Vice President Pence:

As the designated lead for the federal government's coronavirus response, we urge the Administration to reconsider the implementation of the *Inadmissibility on Public Charge Grounds* final rule, or the "public charge" rule, in light of the coronavirus outbreak. Everyone should have access to testing and treatment for coronavirus. The "public charge" rule, however, is a deterrent for symptomatic individuals to seek medical testing and treatment. Individuals infected with coronavirus who are left untested and untreated will risk spreading the disease in our communities, potentially furthering the spread of coronavirus in the United States.

The Administration created the rule. The Administration can stop it.

If you choose not to, the responsibility for the further spread of this virus is on you because we already know people will forgo treatment.

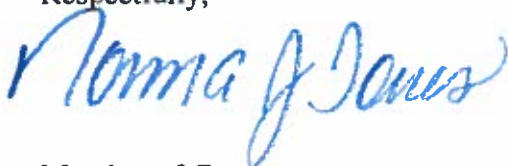
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Unfortunately, the "public charge" rule is already causing people to forego healthcare. The rule allows immigration officers to assess whether immigrants seeking lawful permanent residency are a "public charge" based on whether they have used government benefits, like Medicaid. This policy creates fear and uncertainty among immigrants and citizens in mixed-status families from staying in or enrolling in Medicaid. The impact of the "public charge" rule on public health is already chilling. According to David Kadar, CEO of Parktree Community Health Center in Pomona, California, "Our experience at Parktree Community Health Center is that the public charge policy is a deterrent for people to seek help. People are foregoing medical treatment out of fear that they will be penalized, which exposes the broader community when contagious ailments go untreated."

With individuals foregoing health care out of fear of the "public charge" rule's impact on their future, our country risks furthering the spread of coronavirus within our communities. Individuals with coronavirus who are untested may be your colleague who sits a few desks away, the cook preparing your food, the teacher to your children, or the home attendant who cares for your elderly parent. At this critical time, the "public charge" rule is a public health threat.

Preventing the spread of coronavirus is a matter of national security. Since the Administration announced the "public charge" rule, as members of Congress, we have opposed it on moral and legal grounds. Short of rescinding it for those reasons, we strongly urge the administration to consider the health of the people across the country and at the very least temporarily suspend the implementation of the "public charge" rule.

Respectfully,



Member of Congress

CC:

Director Mick Mulvaney
Office of Management and Budget
725 17th St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20503

Acting Secretary Chad F. Wolf
Department of Homeland Security
2707 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. SE
Washington, D.C. 20528

2413 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0703
(202) 225-3681

59 ELM STREET
SECOND FLOOR
NEW HAVEN, CT 06510
(203) 562-3718

DURHAM/MIDDLEFIELD/MIDDLETOWN
(860) 344-1159

WEBSITE: [HTTP://DELAURO.HOUSE.GOV](http://DELAURO.HOUSE.GOV)



UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ROSA L. DELAURO

3RD DISTRICT, CONNECTICUT

CO-CHAIR, DEMOCRATIC STEERING AND
POLICY COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEES
CHAIR

LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT,
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION,
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COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

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Member of Congress

CC:
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Office of Management and Budget
725 17th St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20503

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Department of Homeland Security
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Lois Frankel
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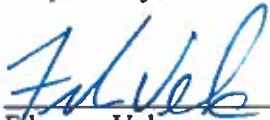
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Filemon Vela
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Respectfully,

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Member of Congress

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Adriano Espaillat
Member of Congress

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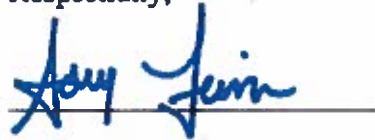
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Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Amy Levin", is written over a horizontal line.

Member of Congress

CC:

Director Mick Mulvaney
Office of Management and Budget
725 17th St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20503

Acting Secretary Chad F. Wolf
Department of Homeland Security
2707 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. SE
Washington, D.C. 20528

Congress of the United States

Washington, D.C. 20515

Tuesday, March 10, 2020

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Vice President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20501

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The Administration created the rule. The Administration can stop it.

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Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "James P. McInerney". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" and last name "McInerney" clearly legible. The middle initial "P." is smaller and less distinct. The signature is written on a white background.

Member of Congress

CC:

Director Mick Mulvaney
Office of Management and Budget
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Washington, D.C. 20503

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Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tony Cardenas". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line drawn through the middle of the name.

Member of Congress

CC:

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Office of Management and Budget
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Washington, D.C. 20503

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DARREN SOTO
Member of Congress

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Office of Management and Budget
725 17th St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20503

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Department of Homeland Security
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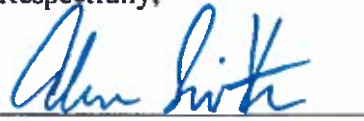
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Member of Congress

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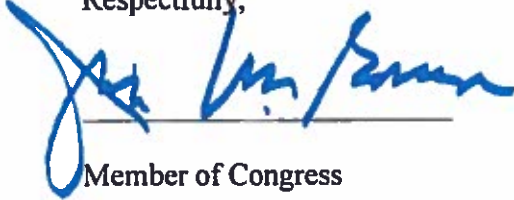
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Member of Congress

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Office of Management and Budget
725 17th St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20503

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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Takano". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mark" and last name "Takano" clearly distinguishable.

MARK TAKANO
Member of Congress

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Director Mick Mulvaney
Office of Management and Budget
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Washington, D.C. 20503

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Unfortunately, the "public charge" rule is already causing people to forego healthcare. The rule allows immigration officers to assess whether immigrants seeking lawful permanent residency are a "public charge" based on whether they have used government benefits, like Medicaid. This policy creates fear and uncertainty among immigrants and citizens in mixed-status families from staying in or enrolling in Medicaid. The impact of the "public charge" rule on public health is already chilling. According to David Kadar, CEO of Parktree Community Health Center in Pomona, California, "Our experience at Parktree Community Health Center is that the public charge policy is a deterrent for people to seek help. People are foregoing medical treatment out of fear that they will be penalized, which exposes the broader community when contagious ailments go untreated."

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Respectfully,


Member of Congress

CC:
Director Mick Mulvaney
Office of Management and Budget
725 17th St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20503

Acting Secretary Chad F. Wolf
Department of Homeland Security
2707 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. SE
Washington, D.C. 20528

Congress of the United States

Washington, D.C. 20515

Tuesday, March 10, 2020

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Vice President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20501

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Susan DelBene
Member of Congress

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Washington, D.C. 20503

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Member of Congress

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Office of Management and Budget
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Washington, D.C. 20503

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A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jerry McNerney", is written over a horizontal line. Below the line, the name "Jerry McNerney" and the title "Member of Congress" are printed in a small, black, sans-serif font.

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Office of Management and Budget
725 17th St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20503

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Member of Congress

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Office of Management and Budget
725 17th St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20503

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Department of Homeland Security
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Member of Congress

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Marcia L. Fudge
Member of Congress

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Office of Management and Budget
725 17th St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20503

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Member of Congress

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Washington, D.C. 20503

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Member of Congress

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Nanette Diaz Bonagán

Member of Congress

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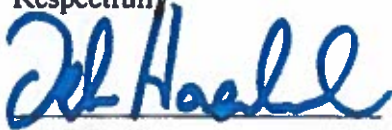
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Respectfully



Member of Congress

CC:

Director Mick Mulvaney
Office of Management and Budget
725 17th St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20503

Acting Secretary Chad F. Wolf
Department of Homeland Security
2707 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. SE
Washington, D.C. 20528

Congress of the United States
Washington, D.C. 20515

Tuesday, March 10, 2020

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Vice President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20501

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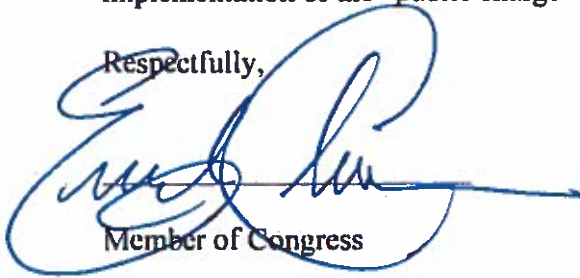
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Member of Congress

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Bill Foster
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MEMBER:
COMMITTEE ON
WAYS AND MEANS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
OVERSIGHT
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
SELECT REVENUE MEASURES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
SOCIAL SECURITY

Linda T. Sánchez
38TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

DC OFFICE:
2329 RAYBURN BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-8676

DISTRICT OFFICE:
12440 EAST IMPERIAL HIGHWAY
SUITE 140
NORWALK, CA 90650
(562) 860-5050

www.lindasanchez.house.gov

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RUBEN GALLEGO
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Tuesday, March 10, 2020

The Honorable Mike Pence
Vice President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20501

Dear Vice President Pence:

As the designated lead for the federal government's coronavirus response, we urge the Administration to reconsider the implementation of the *Inadmissibility on Public Charge Grounds* final rule, or the "public charge" rule, in light of the coronavirus outbreak. Everyone should have access to testing and treatment for coronavirus. The "public charge" rule, however, is a deterrent for symptomatic individuals to seek medical testing and treatment. Individuals infected with coronavirus who are left untested and untreated will risk spreading the disease in our communities, potentially furthering the spread of coronavirus in the United States.

The Administration created the rule. The Administration can stop it.

If you choose not to, the responsibility for the further spread of this virus is on you because we already know people will forgo treatment.

Over the past week, the number of detected coronavirus cases in the United States has grown dramatically. As of Monday, March 9th, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported more than 400 cases and over ten deaths. More cases have been identified across the country in over 30 states. As the global case count surpasses 100,000 and the death toll climbs, it is imperative that the public has adequate access to health care.

Unfortunately, the "public charge" rule is already causing people to forego healthcare. The rule allows immigration officers to assess whether immigrants seeking lawful permanent residency are a "public charge" based on whether they have used government benefits, like Medicaid. This policy creates fear and uncertainty among immigrants and citizens in mixed-status families from staying in or enrolling in Medicaid. The impact of the "public charge" rule on public health is already chilling. According to David Kadar, CEO of Parktree Community Health Center in Pomona, California, "Our experience at Parktree Community Health Center is that the public charge policy is a deterrent for people to seek help. People are foregoing medical treatment out of fear that they will be penalized, which exposes the broader community when contagious ailments go untreated."

With individuals foregoing health care out of fear of the "public charge" rule's impact on their future, our country risks furthering the spread of coronavirus within our communities.

Individuals with coronavirus who are untested may be your colleague who sits a few desks away, the cook preparing your food, the teacher to your children, or the home attendant who cares for your elderly parent. At this critical time, the "public charge" rule is a public health threat.

Preventing the spread of coronavirus is a matter of national security. Since the Administration announced the "public charge" rule, as members of Congress, we have opposed it on moral and legal grounds. Short of rescinding it for those reasons, we strongly urge the administration to consider the health of the people across the country and at the very least temporarily suspend the implementation of the "public charge" rule.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kyrine M. Clark". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'K'.

Member of Congress

CC:

Director Mick Mulvaney
Office of Management and Budget
725 17th St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20503

Acting Secretary Chad F. Wolf
Department of Homeland Security
2707 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. SE
Washington, D.C. 20528

Congress of the United States

Washington, D.C. 20515

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Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Derek Kilmer', written over a horizontal line.

DEREK KILMER
Member of Congress

CC:
Director Mick Mulvaney
Office of Management and Budget
725 17th St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20503

Acting Secretary Chad F. Wolf
Department of Homeland Security
2707 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. SE
Washington, D.C. 20528

Congress of the United States
Washington, D.C. 20515

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Respectfully,



PRAMILA JAYAPAL
Member of Congress

CC:
Director Mick Mulvaney
Office of Management and Budget
725 17th St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20503

Acting Secretary Chad F. Wolf
Department of Homeland Security
2707 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. SE
Washington, D.C. 20528